

In the claims:

1. (Currently amended) A power compass saw (10) with a housing (12) that accommodates a lifting rod for the up and down movement of a longitudinal saw blade (27) attached thereto, the saw blade having a toothed side and a saw blade back (270), and with a guide roller (29) which serves as reciprocating stroke-support roller, supports the saw blade back (270) and has a central circumferential groove (290) into which the saw blade extends with its saw blade back (270) and is guided therein, whereby the sides of the circumferential groove (290) are tapered, wherein the saw blade back (270) of the saw blade is designed with a 7° conical configuration and/or taper on both sides, so that it tapers toward the saw blade back (270) and is capable of being supported in two dimensions in the circumferential groove (290), the groove sides (291) of which have a 5° taper, wherein the saw blade back (270) measured at cone and/or taper edges is wider than the groove bottom (292) of the circumferential groove (290) of the guide roller (29), ~~in particular~~ no wider than 1.5 mm, wherein the groove bottom (292) is less wide than the saw blade back (270), ~~in particular~~ not wider than 1.4 mm, and wherein the guide roller (29) has a diameter of 10 to 25 mm, and the groove is as deep as possible, ~~in particular~~ at least 5 mm deep.

2. (Currently amended) The power compass saw as recited in Claim 1, wherein the taper of the saw blade back (270) is formed in a noncutting manner, and is stamped in particular.

Claims 3-7 cancelled.

8. (Previously presented) A power compass saw (10) with a housing (12) that accommodates a lifting rod for the up and down movement of a longitudinal saw blade (27) attached thereto, the saw blade having a toothed side and a saw blade back (270) and with a guide roller (29) which supports the saw blade back (270) and has a central groove (290) into which the saw blade extends with its saw blade back (270) and is guided therein, wherein the central circumferential groove (290) has tapered groove sides (291) with a 5° taper, and wherein the saw blade back (270) has a straight portion and an end beveled portion with beveled edges (272) having a 7° taper at both sides, wherein the saw blade back (270) has diametrically opposed edges provided at a transition from the straight portion to the beveled portion (279), and wherein the saw blade back (270) has a width which is measured between the diametrically opposed edges (279) and is greater than a width of a bottom (292) of the circumferential groove (290).